

CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

1. A method for delivering information in a wireless network, the method comprising:

receiving from a client, a request for delivery of the information; and
sending the information to the client according to a multicast schedule.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

sending a response to the client confirming scheduling of the request.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

determining whether the multicast schedule exists for the request; and
if not, creating the multicast schedule.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the request includes a multicast address and a quality of service (QoS) identifier.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

deleting the multicast schedule after all clients associated with the multicast schedule have been sent the information.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein deleting the multicast schedule comprises receiving a deletion request from each client associated with the multicast schedule to delete the multicast schedule.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the wireless network comprises a wireless local area network (WLAN) and wherein the request comprises a transmission specification (TSPEC) request.

8. The method of claim 2 wherein the response comprises a TSPEC response.

9. A method of receiving information in a wireless network, the method comprising:

 sending a request for delivery of the information the request including a multicast designation address; and

 configuring a power saving protocol to accommodate a scheduled delivery of the information.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising receiving a response confirming the request.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein the request includes a multicast address.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein the request includes a quality of service (QoS) attribute.

13. The method of claim 9 wherein the wireless network comprises a wireless local area network (WLAN).

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the WLAN uses orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM).

15. The method of claim 9 wherein the request comprises a transmission specification (TSPEC).

16. The method of claim 9 further comprising sending a schedule deletion request to delete a multicast schedule.

17. A communication apparatus comprising:
- a processing circuit adapted to coordinate a power saving mode of the apparatus with a multicast schedule specified by a network device.
18. The communication apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:
- a radio frequency (RF) interface coupled to the processing circuit.
19. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the processing portion includes a medium access controller (MAC) configured to request delivery of information from the network device.
20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the MAC is further configured to indicate confirmation of the requested delivery from the network device to an application.
21. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the MAC is further configured to send a delete request message requesting removal of the apparatus from the multicast schedule.
22. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the apparatus comprises a wireless user station (STA).
22. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the apparatus comprises a network adaptor.
23. The apparatus of claim 18 further comprising at least two antennas coupled to the RF interface.

24. A communication apparatus comprising:

a processing circuit adapted to be able to determine a wireless multicast schedule in accordance with power saving modes of multiple client devices.

25. The device of claim 24 further comprising:

an RF interface coupled with the processing circuit and configured to transmit the wireless multicast according to the schedule determined by the processing circuit.

26. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the apparatus comprises a wireless local area network (WLAN) access point.

27. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein scheduling of the wireless multicast is based one or more requests having a multicast address and received from one or more network devices.

28. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the processing circuit is adapted to be able to send the schedule to one or more requesting network devices as a transmission specification (TSPEC) response.

29. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the processing circuit is further adapted to be able to buffer application data packets for the wireless multicast until a time indicated on the schedule.

30. The apparatus of claim 25 further comprising at least two antennas coupled to the RF interfaces for enabling multiple input multiple output (MIMO) communications.

31. A communication system comprising:
a radio frequency (RF) transceiver;
at least two antennas electrically coupled to the RF transceiver; and
a data processing circuit electrically coupled with the RF transceiver,
wherein the data processing circuit is configured to be able to determine a wireless multicast schedule in accordance with power saving modes of multiple client devices.

32. The communication system of claim 31 wherein the data processing circuit is configured to be able to generate a multicast schedule based on received requests from the multiple client devices.

33. The communication system of claim 32 wherein the requests comprise a transmission specification (TSPEC) including a multicast address and a quality of service (QoS) indicator.

34. The communication system of claim 31 wherein the communication system comprises a wireless local area network (WLAN) access point (AP).